

THE WAR Illustrated

Complete Record of the Conflict
by Land and Sea and in the Air

Edited by
SIR JOHN HAMMERTON

Volume Four



Photo, Topical Press

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.A.

The FOURTH VOLUME OF THE WAR ILLUSTRATED contains the weekly issues from No. 71 to No. 100. None of the preceding volumes of the series is so crowded with events of vital importance to the shaping of the War. It is difficult to imagine that, until we are within sight of the end, the drama of World War will move at a swifter tempo than during the first seven months of 1941, with which the following pages are concerned.

Our literary and pictorial contents comprise, indeed, a picture-record of what will prove to be one of the most historic periods of the world-wide conflict. The startling success of General Wavell's campaign against the Italians in North Africa, resulting in the destruction of so much of Mussolini's Army; the vitally important battle of Cape Matapan, which crippled the Italian Navy; the heroic stand of Greece against Fascist aggression; the sensational turn of affairs in Yugoslavia; the treachery of Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary, leading to the Nazi domination of the Balkans; the short-lived revolution in Iraq; the war in Syria, where the degenerate Vichy government forced the former allies of France to turn their arms against hostile French forces under the command of General Dentz, and fortunately in so doing gave a new direction to Germany's Eastward thrust, little to the liking of Hitler; the tremendous increase in Britain's air power, with its promise of the coming day when the command of the sky will pass into the hands of Britain's incomparable Air Force; the sensational break between Germany and Russia, vastly extending the area of the War; America's no less sensational steps to make secure her means of cooperation with Great Britain—these are but a few of the many new chapters in the history of the world that have been written in the seven months covered by this volume.

We need not emphasize the extraordinary difficulties under which the production of *THE WAR ILLUSTRATED* has been maintained while Britain has been one of the central targets of Nazi attack, but our pages bear little evidence of the trying conditions in which they have been compiled, printed, and circulated widely throughout the British Empire and all friendly lands. No effort will be spared to maintain the series, and every ingenuity will be exercised to the carrying through of its original aim: the completion of a vivid picture-record of the Second World War, whose historic interest must in a future day eclipse all that has gone before.



Photo, Topical Press

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR PHILIP JOUBERT DE LA FERTE, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Sir Philip Joubert was Air Officer Commanding R.A.F., India, when war broke out. In October 1939 he was recalled for service at home and was appointed adviser on combined operations, later becoming Assistant Chief of the Air Staff. On June 14, 1941, he succeeded Sir Frederick Bowhill as Air Officer C.-in-C. Coastal Command.



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LT.-GEN. SIR HENRY MAITLAND WILSON, K.C.B., G.B.E., D.S.O.

After commanding 2nd Division at Aldershot, 1937-1939, General Wilson became General Officer Commanding-in-Chief in Egypt. As General Wavell's right-hand man he played a large part in the British advance in the Western Desert to Benghazi and later led the Allied forces in Greece and Syria.



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LT.-GEN. SIR ALAN GORDON CUNNINGHAM, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

Commander of the 5th Anti-Aircraft Division, T.A., in 1938, General Cunningham was sent, shortly after the outbreak of war, to command the Imperial troops in East Africa. It was his brilliant leadership which directed the swift campaign in Abyssinia to its successful conclusion.